IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 10/516,344 Confirmation No. 9502

Applicant : Mertin et al.

Filed: November 30, 2004

Title : ORAL PHARMACEUTICAL PREPARATIONS

COMPRISING ION EXCHANGE RESINS WITH ACTIVE SUBSTANCE LOADING AND PSEUDOPLASTIC GEL-FORMER THICKENERS

Group Art Unit : 1618

Examiner : Paul Dickinson

VIA EFS - 01/19/08

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P. O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME AND RESPONSE

Dear Sir:

The Applicants respectfully request a three-month extension of time up to and including February 13, 2009, to respond to the Office Action mailed August 13, 2008, in the above-referenced application. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), the required fee of \$1,110 is included herewith. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any overpayment or underpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-4260.

Respectfully submitted.

/JESSICA MONACHELLO/

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